

**Amendments to the Substitute Specification:**

On page 1, before "FIELD OF THE INVENTION", insert:

**--CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION**

The present application claims the priority under 35 U.S.C. 119 of Japanese Patent Application Nos. 2002-315980, 2002-315987, 2002-316584, and 2002-316630, all filed October 30, 2002, which are hereby incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.--

On page 15, before the last line, insert:

**--Comparative examples 4 to 6:**

In the above-mentioned examples 1 to 3, instead of the corona discharge treatment, as a finishing agent, a finishing agent liquid mixed 50% by weight polyoxyalkylene-alkylphenyl ether phosphate (HLB = 9) and 50% by weight polyoxyalkylene-fatty acid ester (HLB = 12) was produced. The fibers were dipped therein, and thereafter dried to be applied the finishing agent of 0.28% by weight. The treatments except these were the same as in Examples 1 to 3. The results are shown in Table 1.

Comparative example 7 and comparative example 8:

They were conducted similarly to example 1 except using steel fibers or polyvinyl alcohol fibers that are on the market (the fiber length 30 mm) instead of the polypropylene fibers. The results are shown in Table 1.--